## **Article - Public Utilities**

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§4–208.

- (a) This section applies to a public service company that:
  - (1) provides gas or electric services;
- (2) is subject to a cost allocation manual approved by the Commission;
  - (3) (i) engages in an unregulated business activity; or
- (ii) has a subsidiary that engages in an unregulated business activity; and
- (4) does not meet the standards for rate proceedings provided for under § 4-207 of this subtitle.
- (b) (1) A public service company subject to this section shall file an independent audit opinion prepared by an entity approved by the Commission on the earliest of:
  - (i) once every 2 years; or
  - (ii) when the public service company:
- 1. files a request for a change in its base rate under this subtitle; or
- 2. has a major change in its corporate organization or structure as determined by the Commission.
  - (2) The independent auditor shall:
    - (i) examine:
- 1. compliance by the public service company with policies and procedures of the public service company's cost allocation manual;
- 2. proper allocation of costs to an affiliate of the public service company in accordance with the manual; and

- 3. appropriate charging of costs and transactions relative to the manual to the public service company and its affiliates; and
  - (ii) identify adjustments that should be made:
- 1. to the manual consistent with prior Commission rulings; and
- 2. to the public service company or to an affiliate of the public service company relative to the examination of the allocation of costs and charging of costs and transactions.
- (c) The cost of the independent audit opinion filed under subsection (b) of this section shall be borne by the stockholders of the public service company.

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